

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Canceled)

2. (Previously Presented) The fastener delivery apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the pressure of the pressurized gas is 2 bar or less.

3. (Previously Presented) The fastener delivery apparatus according to claim 10, wherein source of pressurized gas is disposed so that, in use, the path of the gas is coaxial with a longitudinal axis of the tube.

4. (Previously Presented) The fastener delivery apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the transfer passage is sealable by a gate having an internal cross-section that is substantially matched in terms of shape and dimension to the internal cross-section of the delivery tube so as to reduce turbulence or drag to the flow of gas passing it.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The fastener delivery apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the delivery tube is of a size such that, in use, there is a clearance between the fastener and the tube so as to provide a gas cushion around the fastener.

7. (Currently Amended) The fastener delivery apparatus according to claim 10, wherein the delivery tube has a projecting formation ~~external orientation and/or location features~~.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) A fastener delivery apparatus for connection to a setting tool of a fastener machine comprising:

a fastener delivery tube and a fastener supply;

the delivery tube being connected to the fastener supply and being connectable to the setting tool;

the delivery tube having a bore that defines an internal cross-section profile configured to conform substantially to the size and shape of the fastener to be used;

a source of pressurized gas having an outlet that is connected to and coaxial with the delivery tube and configured to supply pressurized gas through the bore of said tube so as to propel fasteners along said tube towards the setting tool;

said outlet having a bore with an interior cross sectional area that is substantially identical to said internal cross-section profile of the delivery tube bore;

a movable transfer passage disposed between the outlet of the source of pressurized gas and an inlet of the delivery tube for transferring a fastener between the fastener supply and the delivery tube, the passage being in line with the outlet of the gas source and said inlet of the delivery tube;

sealing means contacting ~~associated with~~ the transfer passage for sealing the passage so as to prevent leakage of gas from the apparatus.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Newly Added) A fastener delivery apparatus for connection to a setting tool of a fastener machine comprising:

a fastener delivery tube and a fastener supply;

the delivery tube being connected to the fastener supply and being connectable to the setting tool;

the delivery tube having a bore that defines an internal cross-section profile configured to conform substantially to the size and shape of the fastener to be used;

a source of pressurized gas having an outlet that is connected to and coaxial with the delivery tube and configured to supply pressurized gas through the bore of said tube so as to propel fasteners along said tube towards the setting tool;

said outlet having a bore with an interior cross sectional area that is substantially identical to said internal cross-section profile of the delivery tube bore;

a rotatable transfer passage disposed between the outlet of the source of pressurized gas and an inlet of the delivery tube for transferring a fastener between the fastener supply and the delivery tube, the passage being in line with the outlet of the gas source and said inlet of the delivery tube;

sealing means contacting the transfer passage for sealing the passage so as to prevent leakage of gas from the apparatus.

13. (Newly Added) The fastener delivery apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the pressure of the pressurized gas is 2 bar or less.

14. (Newly Added) The fastener delivery apparatus according to claim 12, wherein source of pressurized gas is disposed so that, in use, the path of the gas is coaxial with a longitudinal axis of the tube.

15. (Newly Added) The fastener delivery apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the transfer passage is sealable by a gate having an internal cross-section that is substantially matched in terms of shape and dimension to the internal cross-section of the delivery tube so as to reduce turbulence or drag to the flow of gas passing it.

16. (Newly Added) The fastener delivery apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the delivery tube is of a size such that, in use, there is a clearance between the fastener and the tube so as to provide a gas cushion around the fastener.

17. (Newly Added) The fastener delivery apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the delivery tube has a projecting formation.